

Press Release

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NYS DEC Selects Grassroots To Provide Natural Turf Training for Schools

*Non-profit wins competitive bid to provide
series of one-day training programs across NY State*

(Port Washington, NY): Grassroots Environmental Education, a New York-based environmental health non-profit, has been selected by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to develop and present a series of natural turf management training programs for school personnel and private contractors who provide landscape management services to day care centers. The training is in support of the Child Safe Playing Fields Act, passed in 2010, which prohibits the use of most pesticides on playing fields and playgrounds of all schools and day care centers in the state.

"We're excited to be working with the DEC to help turf managers learn the science behind natural turf management and comply with the law," says Doug Wood, Associate Director of Grassroots. "We've been presenting training programs like these for almost a decade, and during that time, the organic or natural turf management has become the fastest growing segment of the green industry. It's great to see the DEC supporting it!"

Grassroots will present six one-day entry level courses at various locations across the state, including Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Albany, Bethpage and Rye, and will also produce a webinar for those who can't attend any of the trainings in person. The instructor for the courses will be nationally-recognized natural turf expert Charles ("Chip") Osborne.

More information about the training programs, including dates and locations, a course agenda and online registration, is available at the special program web site, www.NYTurfTraining.com.

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About Grassroots:

Grassroots Environmental Education is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization based in New York. Grassroots educates the public about the links between common environmental exposures and human health, and the seeks to empower individuals to act as catalysts for change within their own communities. More information is available on the organization's web site, www.GrassrootsInfo.org.